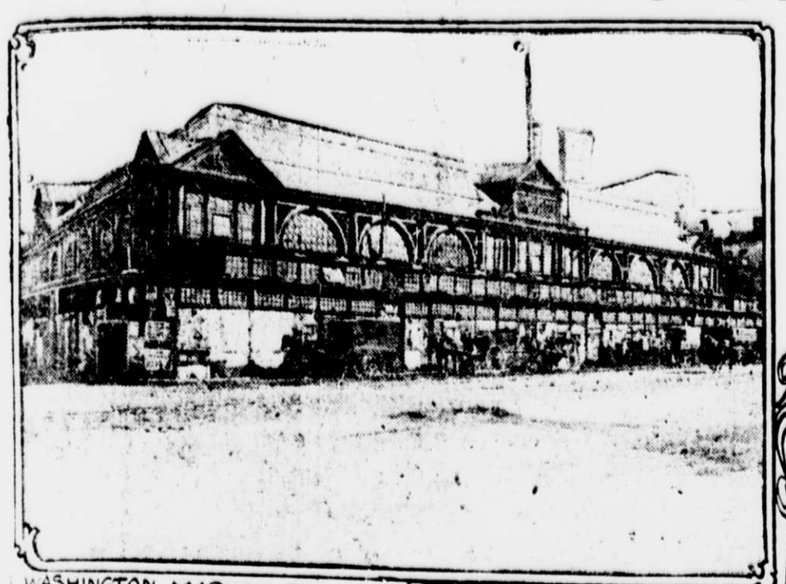
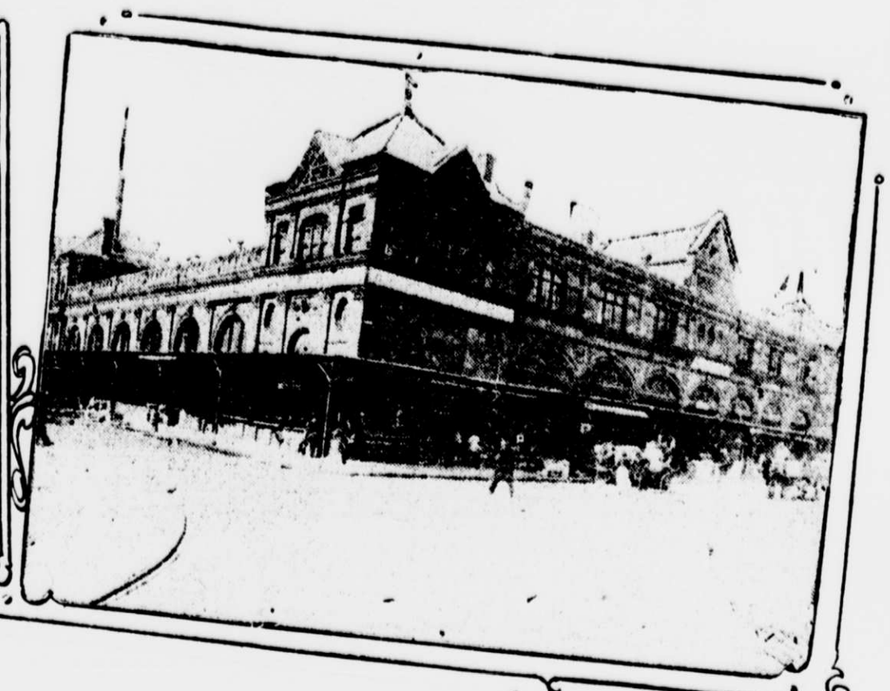
NEW YORK'S FAMOUS MARKETS



WASHINGTON MARKET BEFORE CHANGES WERE MADE



FULTON MARKET WHICH MAY BE THE NEXT TO GO

GANSEVOORT AND WEST WASHINGTON MARKET.

EARLY MORNING SCENE IN HARLEM MARKET.

Public markets are gradually going into disuse. There are fewer in New York to-day than when this town was only half its present size. The decline is not attributed to unpopularity, but rather to the location of many of these famous places. Most of them are in the old sections, south of Fourteenth street, and were erected when these regions contained the entire population of the city.

With the expansion of business in the lower districts, housewives were forced to move. But the change was not felt by the market men for sometime. Business continued forcing ahead. New sections were invaded and as a consequence the the distance between the markets and housewives were increased. The authorities, blind to these changes, did not move the markets northward and as result one of the oldest institutions of the city is in danger of being extinct. It is predicted that the next ten years will see the passing of most of those remaining in the old sections.

Fulton Market is the next that is slated to go. Borough President McAneny and Comptroller Prendergast are opposed to it being continued. They claim the city is losing on the property, and besides, it is not being used for the purpose it was intended, when it was built nearly a century ago. It was built as a retail market, for the use of the residents of the city, which at the times numbered about 24,000 and lived within easy reach of the market. Both rich and poor patronized the place and its fame spread throughout the world.

The market was erected in 1821, but the foot of Fulton street had been used for market purposes for years before. In 1795, when Talleyrand was sojourning in this country, tradition has it that he spent much time about Fulton Market. He was stopping in a house in Brooklyn near Fulton ferry, and every day he crossed to New York to study, he told a friend, "the people, their ways and their impulses." "The market brings all classes together," he is credited with saying, "and for that reason it is a great institution." He also gathered information about Long Island agriculture, and mingled freely with the farmers from across the river. He had heard of the richness of Long Island soil, and had he remained here he planned to go into the real estate business and establish a colony on the Island for French exiles.

At that time Fulton Market was nothing more than a gathering of wagons heaped with products. In 1821 the block on which the market stands was devastated by fire. The farmers then demanded that the block be used for market purposes. Under urging, the city improved the block with a new market building, which was the pride of the town. It cost thousands of dollars, and every visitor of importance to the city was ushered down to see the big building.

Business increased so in the next thirty years that a larger building was demanded. The city authorities paid no attention to the marketmen and the citizens who complained of the congestion of the place.

The market lived on unchanged until 1835, when it was swept by a fire which razed everything off the block. The city then built the present building, which is about twice the size of the old market.

In time Fulton Market became the headquarters of the fish trade in this part of the country. According to the daily reports of the Fulton Market Association the sale of 1,500,000 shad, [illegible] mackerel, 6,300,000 herring, [illegible] crawfish, 6,750 terrapin, 163,000 pounds of green turtle, 2,000,000 pounds of lobster, 55,000 gallons of scallops and 500,000 baskets of oysters were nothing unusual for a year's business. Almost every kind of sea food could be found there. Probably fifty different varieties of fish could be found on the stalls of the different merchants.

In those days the market was in the hands of retailers, who dealt direct to the consumers. But the building of Brooklyn Bridge and the northward expansion of the business forced many families out of the district. In time the market lost its retail trade, and wholesalers took control. The market, containing 245 stalls, is now in the hands of forty-five merchants, whose business is to furnish supplies to hotels, restaurants, steamboat companies and retailers. It is for this reason that Messrs. McAneny and Prendergast have recommended to the Sinking Fund Commission the removal of the market, which is being carried at a yearly loss of $2,281.29.

Fulton Market took the place of the market which stood at the foot of Burling Slip. Because of the many flies to be found there, Philadelphia named it the fly market, which name it was known by up to the last. It stood in a swampy valley and was called by the Dutch "Vlei" (valley) market.

This market was established in 1699 and was among the earliest in New York. It was originally in Coenties Slip, but was moved to Burling Slip when Fulton Ferry was inaugurated.

Marketing is an old-country custom, and shortly after the Dutch took the city a public marketing place was established. As the population was not large the market, or fair days, as they were called, came but a few times a year. These were big days in the colony, and burgesses and their families came in from outlying districts in wagons heaped with foodstuff. Over from Jersey and Long Island came boatloads of provisions, fish and vegetables.

The first market was in Broad street, near Bridge street, at which point was a bridge across the canal.

Governor Andros, in 1675, took up the matter of established market place with the city council, and a regular mart was inaugurated at Hanover Square. Every Saturday was market day, and the square swarmed with wagons and traders. This market was for the sale of products and meats. There was another meat market in front of the south bastion of Fort Amsterdam, at the Battery. At Coenties Slip was the fish market, the forerunner of Fulton Market. The Governor set aside a market place in Brooklyn for the sale of cattle, fish and grain. This market convened only once a year, the first Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of November.

To encourage markets and fairs Andros regulated that "any person coming to or going from these fairs and markets shall be free from arrest for debt on those days."

The market at Bowling Green had fallen into disuse toward the end of the Dutch regime for want of repairs. When Benjamin Fletcher became Captain General and Governor in Chief of New York it was suggested that the property be leased to some citizen who would erect new market buildings. The lease was opposed by those living near the property, who claimed the location was not suited for a market place.

In June, 1724, Stephen Richards, Jacob Leisler, Obediah Hunt, Benjamin Wynkoop, Robert Crook, Thomas Roberts, Paul Richards and Isaac De Peyster, all of whom lived near the South bastion of the fort, sent the Governor and the city council a petition, asking for the removal of the market. They claimed the market had fallen down, and the docks adjoining were filled with rubbish. The erection of another market building would injure their property, and besides would be in range of the cannons of the fort. The matter hung fire eight years, when it was leased to a public-spirited citizen who laid it out as a bowling green, as it had been originally.

A market was laid out at the foot of Wall street in 1709 for the sale of meat, but it was never used for such purposes. It became the slave market of the city.

In 1729 Gov. Fletcher inaugurated a mart in Pearl street, just south of Wall street and near the Custom House of those days.

Those who could afford it trafled at the Crown Market in Broadway and Crown street, now Liberty street. The Singer building covers part of the market. It was also known as the Uptown Market, because it was so much farther north than the other markets. It was a small building, 40x25, and was patronized chiefly by New York's wealthy families. It was nothing unusual in those days to see men, famous in colonial history, choosing from the game brought in by hunters, and poultry raised by farmers near the Bouwerie; fresh-cheeked and wholesome, yet stately ladies selecting choice bits for the table, and a step behind the negro slaves, full of business, carrying the market baskets.

The market at the foot of Catherine street, which was pulled down about ten years ago for the same reason that is likely to result in the removal of Fulton Market, was established in 1786, and named after the wife of Capt. Harmon Rutgers, whose mansion stood nearby.

Gen. Washington dealt in Catherine Market when he lived in Cherry street, under the Brooklyn Bridge. Dr. Samuel L. Mitchell was another who could be seen often at this market. Dr. Mitchell prided in doing his own marketing, and once said that "the man who was ashamed to carry home his own dinner did not deserve any."

It was a great place in old days for negro festivities. Dancing matches between slaves from Long Island and New Jersey were held there for prizes. The Long Island slaves decorated their hair with tea-lead, the shiny paper found in tea boxes from China. The Jersey negro carried cues covered with dried eel skin.

Along the East River in the neighborhood of Jackson street, was the shipbuilding industry of the city. Inland were the homes of those employed in the shipyards. The downtown markets were not convenient to these people, and they established in 1817 a market of their own at the corner of Essex and Grand streets, now known as Essex Market.

The section then was different to what it is to-day. It was steep and very rocky, and cost the city considerable money to bring it to grade. The market has been rebuilt several times since then.

Fulton Market improvement followed four years later. Washington Market, at the other end of Fulton street, followed next. It was built in 1833, and originally lined the river edge. The reclaiming of the river front has separated the market from the water by a 200-foot thoroughfare.

It was not always known as Washington Market. For awhile it was called the Bear Market. A big bear was seen swimming across the Hudson from Jersey one day, and Jacob Finch, a butcher in the market, set out and killed it as it was nearing the shore in front of the market. From that on it was the Bear Market. It was also known as the Country Market and the Fish Market.

Washington Market is still one of the big markets of the East. Flanking it for blocks all around are the booths and shops of many merchants.

The market is one of the great sights of the city, especially on a Saturday night, or on the eves of holidays. The streets are lighted up by flaming oil torches and with shouting market men, and the great crowd that fills the street makes it a bedlam.

There was talk a few years ago of the removal of the meat and poultry dealers up to Thirteenth street near Gansevoort Market, but so far the removals have not been numerous. The market men complained that the streets are too narrow and congested to carry on business with despatch. Besides it is too far from the centre of the city, and it takes at least 45 minutes for a delivery wagon to reach Fourteenth street, because of traffic regulations. In time these causes will be the undoing of Washington Market. All the steamships and hotels are uptown, and as these are big customers the downtown market men will find it necessary to be where the stewarts of the steamships and the hotels can reach them easily.

Gansevoort and West Washington Market, at the foot of West Nineteenth street, are the outgrowth of Washington Market. Traffic became so great downtown that the space set aside for the parking of farmers' wagons had to be taken.

The city then laid Gansevoort Market, an open space extending from Gansevoort to little West Twelfth street and from Washington to West streets for the use of wagons. The area is laid out in streets and can accommodate 1,000 wagons. Farmers from Long Island, New Jersey and other sections drive to the square every night, reaching there about midnight. The farmers sleep in their wagons until the market opens in the morning.

To the West, fronting on the river is West Washington market. This market comprises ten two-story buildings. Most of the fruit and vegetables from Southern ports, Bermuda and the West Indies land there. Hundreds of boats of all varieties tie up at the market every day, and it is estimated that 10,000,000 baskets of peaches are received there daily, besides the great quantity of melons, onions, potatoes and other agricultural products.

Here also is the chief wholesale oyster market of the city. A long pier extends out from the market along which are many barges containing the stores of the oyster dealers.

Old Centre Market, which looked like an old fortress, has been replaced by the new Police Headquarters, a fine pile of granite. For years before it was pulled down the market was slated to go. The market was noted for the brilliant and fragrant flowers that were always to be had there.

Jefferson Market, at Greenwich and Sixth avenues, is still in use. Most of it is taken for a police court. The Night Court is also held there.

Thompkins Market, at Third avenue and Seventh street, used by the Sixty-ninth Regiment for many years and by the Seventh Regiment before it, is now a thing of the past. When the Sixty-ninth Regiment moved to its new armory at Lexington avenue and Twenty-fifth street, the city leased it to Cooper Union for ninety-nine years at $1.00 a year. The building was to have been altered into class rooms, but the building was in such poor condition that it would cost many times more than the Union planned to spend to put it in good shape.

The market has been removed and a modern schoolhouse is to be erected.

Few of the small markets of the old days remain.

The Italians have a market up in Little Italy that is fashioned after those in Naples. Gay colors are to be seen in every direction. Under the Manhattan end of the Williamsburg Bridge is the Kosher Market. Everything, whether for the table or the household, can be had there. Even wearing apparel, including shoes, is for sale.

Down in Washington and Carlisle streets are the Syrian market places. Near the Pennsylvania station are the French markets and over in Third avenue, near Stuyvesant Square, is the German market.

WHAT NEW YORK NEEDS AND IS ENTITLED TO

The Merchants Association to Undertake Several Large Activities

OF GREAT IMPORTANCE

For the Protection and Development of Business and Property Interests.

Of the utmost importance to the future of New York city as the commercial pivot of the United States is the ability of its business men to not only keep and foster what it already has, but by a concerted effort, broad in its scope, to go after and get what New York city is entitled to, and finally with their well known hustling qualities and an enthusiasm that cannot be denied put our great city of New York where it is by every right destined to be, the premier city of the world.

With this end in view the Merchants Association of New York is now undertaking several large new activities of great importance for the protection and development of New York's business and property interests. These are:

1. A traffic bureau. To protect New York in the readjustment of freight rates. Neglect in this matter means the exclusion of New York from wide trade fields by reason of freight rates made to favor other cities and to operate against this city.

To assist individual shippers in relation to rates, routes, claims, &c.

2. An industrial development bureau. To attract manufacturing industries to this city by giving wide publicity to the many economic advantages which New York has to offer.

To promote the development of the city's terminal and shipping facilities.

To promote transit facilities which will make possible the wide distribution of the population, thereby assuring low rents and favorable wage conditions.

3—A Convention Bureau—To secure for New York as many as possible of the important and desirable conventions. To promote exhibitions devoted to special lines of business, such as the Automobile Show, the Electrical Show, &c.

4—A Foreign Trade Committee—To promote the development of export trade (particularly in manufactured products), whose growth will be of especal advantage to New York.

5—A Publicity Bureau—To promote these and other purposes of the association by proper publicity.

Many cities competing with New York have these necessary protective agencies highly developed. They have greatly benefited by their work, largely at our expense.

There are now 27 cities with Traffic Bureaus; 16 cities with convention bureaus; 70 cities with industrial bureaus; and more than 100 cities with publicity bureaus.

Whenever a group of railroad managers is gathered together to build up a new freight structure there is some one there to represent Boston; there is some one to represent Chocago; there is some one to represent San Francisco; but there has never been, and there is not now, any one to represent New York. As a city, New York has no representation in these industrial and commercial congresses which have so much power to decide the destinies of trade.

Boston raised last year $25,000 to support its traffic bureau. So did Chicago. So did San Francisco. On her convention bureau alone Chicago spent more than $40,000 last year. She secured 508 conventions.

Boston three years ago found herself back in fourth place as a port. She woke up, organized and in one year increased her water traffic 42 per cent.

Buffalo too woke up in 1910. She raised $100,000 as a fund to protect and extend her own industrial interests. The latest report from Buffalo shows that her industrial bureau has secured seventeen new factories, with 3,200 workers and $3,000,000 of new capital. Buffalo, for instance, has recently taken away the F. H. Williams plant from Brooklyn. This plant, employing 500 skilled mechanics, has been taken away because there is no bureau and no one person in the city of New York whose duty it is to protect our manufacturing interests in this respect.

Boston raised $250,000 last year for such work; Chicago spent $300,000; Dubuque, Ia., $175,000; Milwaukee, $81,000; Baltimore, $50,000; Memphis, $50,000; Jacksonville, $50,000; Spokane, $40,000.

Even little Calgary, which a few years ago was nothing but a trading post in western Canada, has recently raised $100,000 for publicity alone.

Instead of the competition of individuals we have to-day the competition of cities, of States and of nations. This is not a theory but a situation; there is a combined pull against New York.

Action is being taken to nullify our natural advantages. It is being laid down as an economic law that manufacturing must follow its raw materials. Cheap land is being offered in the West; bonuses are being given; taxes are being remitted; all manner of inducements are being offered to manufacturers.

Local industrial expositions have been held in more than thirty cities to boom the goods made at home. Such slogans as "Made in Rochester," "Made in St. Louis" have become common almost everywhere except in the city of New York.

In the face of all this New York cannot afford to be indifferent and unorganized. We must have new agencies that are competent to handle the new dangers of the situation.

What we need and what we are about to have is one large central body, fully financed and fully equipped to represent the whole city of New York whenever its business interests are endangered.

Sales at Floral Park.

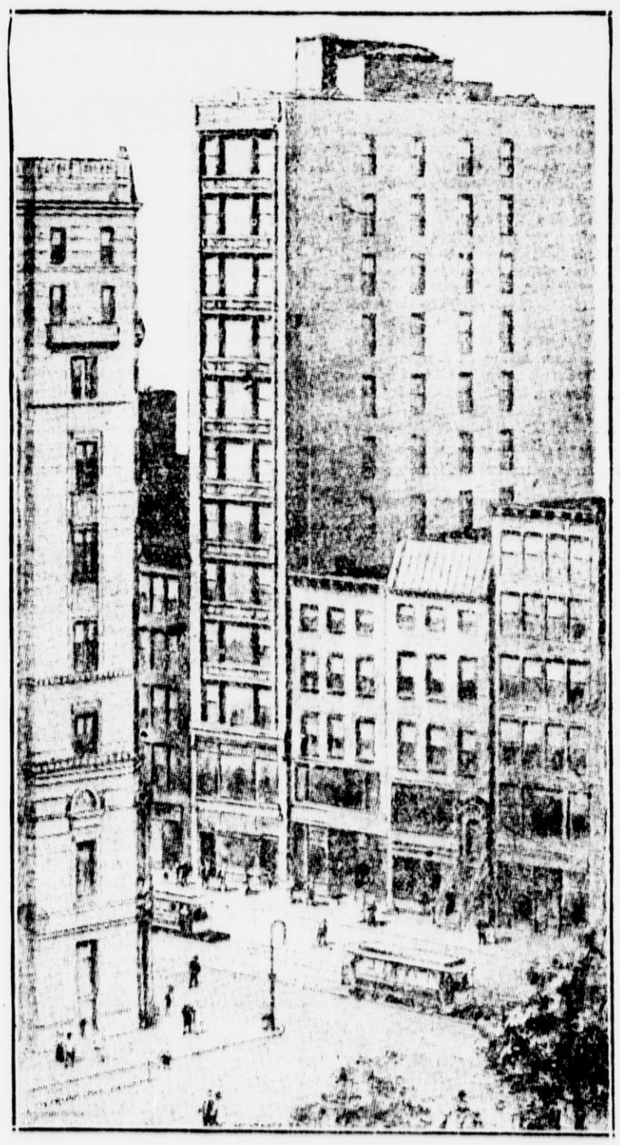
The House and Home Company reports the following sales at Floral Park: To Alton Mackinson, a plot 75x100 on the west side of Emerson avenue just north of Jericho Turnpike; to Ernest Levon, plot 50x100 on the east side of Sycamore avenue 225 feet north of Charles street; to James Renis, a dwelling on plot 90x100 on the east side of Beechhurst avenue 280 feet north of Charles street; to Mrs. Mary Greal, a dwelling on the north side of Charles street 40 feet west of Sycamore avenue; to John Keefe, a plot 50x100 at the northeast corner of Linden avenue and Charles street, and to Joseph Reeny, a plot 100x100 on the west side of Willis avenue 500 feet south of Bryant avenue.

Babylon Hotel Changes Hands.

The Watson House, the principal summer hotel of Babylon, L. I., has been sold to Manhattan investors. The hotel has been owned by Cassidy & Van Nostrand, of which firm Joe Cassidy, the Queens politician, is a member. Eugene Freund, for several years manager of the establishment, will probably continue in that position. The sale was made through Jeremiah Robbins.

The hotel came into the hands of Cassidy & Van Nostrand through foreclosure proceedings.

THE EAST RIVER SAVINGS INSTITUTION BUILDING, 291-293-295 BROADWAY, NORTHWEST CORNER OF READE STREET.



30 EAST TWENTY-THIRD STREET.

THIS NEW TWELVE STORY STORE AND LOFT STRUCTURE IS PARTICULARLY WELL SITUATED, BEING OPPOSITE THE METROPOLITAN LIFE BUILDING AND OVERLOOKING MADISON SQUARE. BROOKE & GEORGER ARE THE AGENTS.

TWENTIETH CENTURY HOUSES TO LAST A CENTURY!

THIS ROW OF SINGLE FAMILY STUCCO HOUSES IS BEING ERECTED BY THE O. L. & W. G. PERFECT CONTRACTING COMPANY IN EIGHTY-THIRD STREET, BETWEEN TWENTY-THIRD AND TWENTY-FOURTH AVENUES, BENSONHURST, BROOKLYN. THEY ARE ONLY THREE BLOCKS FROM THE EIGHTY-SIXTH STREET ELEVATED ROAD THAT WILL CONNECT WITH THE FOURTH AVENUE SUBWAY.

CHICAGO MORTGAGES HERE.

Western Bankers Take Quarters Here for Sale of Mortgage Bonds.

The M. Morgenthau, Jr., Company has leased almost all of the second floor of the Singer Annex, at 95 Liberty street. The company has become agent for S. W. Strauss & Co., Incorporated, mortgage and bond bankers of Chicago. In Chicago the mortgage business is conducted by bankers instead of brokers, the bankers using their own funds and reselling the mortgages. This form of mortgage has some advantage over the New York field in that a trust deed is given to secure the mortgage. Notes due and payable at the office of the banker are given for each interest maturity. Partial payment of principal at stated intervals is required and notes given therefor payable at the banker's office. Individual mortgages are from $2,500 up. There is also a first mortgage bond system for smaller investors, issued in denominations of $5,000 to $1,000, the bonds being secured by first mortgages on approved Chicago properties.